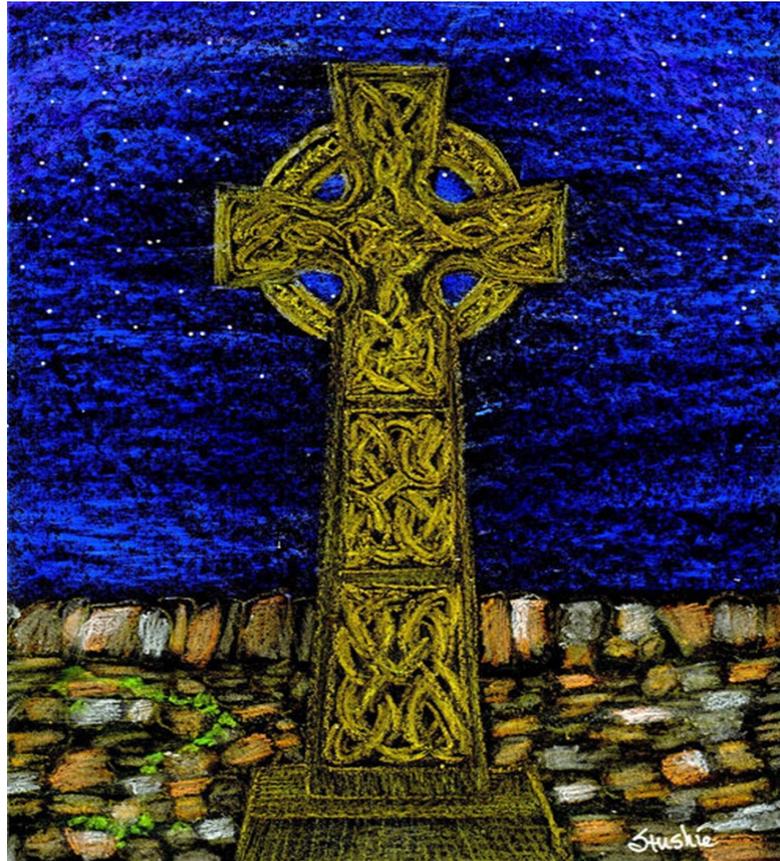


Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.
Isaiah 66:13

MAY 9, 2021

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
May 9, 2021
Sixth Sunday in Easter

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

Prelude: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

- Geistlich Kirchengesang/ arr. Lani Smith, 1940

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Community

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: Sing to our God a new song.

All: **God has done marvelous things!**

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

All: **Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

One: Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

All: **Let the world and its people sing together for joy!**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Gracious God,
you have prepared for those who love you
joys beyond understanding.
Pour into our hearts such love for you,
that, loving you above all else,
we may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
though Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn (*silently singing*): "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

No. 142

Invitation to Confession

We have been called to follow Christ
by obeying his one commandment:
that we love one another as he has loved us.
Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.



Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Loving God, we have not loved you
or each other with our whole hearts.
Forgive us, we pray,
and lead us toward wholeness,
that we may be filled with your joy.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (*silently singing*)

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

Assurance of Pardon

Do not fear, says the Lord,
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name;
you are mine.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God,
in the reading of your Word,
that we would hear what you have to say to us today;
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 98

P.P. 551-552 in the Old Testament

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem: Love Is a Special Thing

- Janie Oliver, 1986

Solo by Joey Farrell

Second Scripture Reading: Acts 10:44-48

P. 130 in the New Testament

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Sermon: Crossing Boundaries

Rev. Jim DeMent

Acts 10:45: The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, . . .

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn (*silently singing*): “To God Be the Glory”

No. 485

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

God of all mercies,
we give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all living things.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your boundless love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord 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.

From A Brief Statement of Faith

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn (*silently singing*): “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

No. 264

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: With Glad, Exuberant Carolings

- C. Doran, 1984

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) or from Christian Copywrite Licensing International (*ccli.com*). 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 not 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

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe,
On His terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all!

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory,
Great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Great things He hath taught us,
Great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.

Refrain:

O perfect redemption,
The purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice;
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

When in our music God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia!

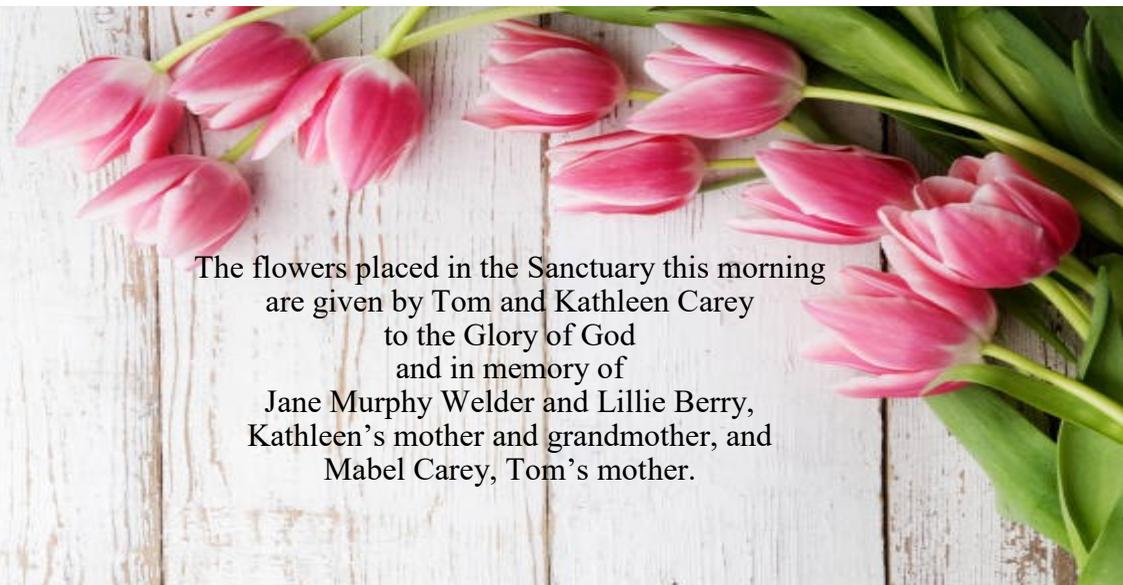
How often, making music, we have found
A new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song,
In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue:
Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!

Presbyterian Women Annual Birthday Offering

During our worship service this morning, we will observe the PW Annual Birthday Offering, an annual tradition which has funded nearly 100 major mission projects at home and abroad. The mission projects selected for 2021 are a witness to Presbyterian Women's commitment to improving the lives of women and children. For more information, see the insert to the Bulletin. We ask you to give as led by the Holy Spirit.



The flowers placed in the Sanctuary this morning
are given by Tom and Kathleen Carey
to the Glory of God
and in memory of
Jane Murphy Welder and Lillie Berry,
Kathleen's mother and grandmother, and
Mabel Carey, Tom's mother.

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

Monday May 10

6:00 PM Session Meeting

Sunday, May 16

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.*

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FPC Victoria Servant Leadership

Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session
John Horadam, Worship
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds
Lynn McAuley, Caregiving & Fellowship
Dawn Neel, Christian Education
Susan Salinas, Worship
Jim Stokes, Treasurer, Finance
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bonnie Wilkinson, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach

Other

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

Pastor's Notes

The verse from Isaiah on our Bulletin cover is one of the few Bible verses that describes God in maternal terms. In Deuteronomy 32:18, God chastises his people that they were "unmindful of the Rock that bore you; you forgot the God who gave you birth." Jesus speaks at least once in maternal terms when he looks out over Jerusalem and laments, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, ... How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings ..." (Matt. 23:37).

Despite the dominance of male descriptors for God in the Bible, we do well on this Mothers' Day to remember that God, our Creator, is not only our Father but our Mother as well. God's loving attributes are naturally maternal. Birth mothers are gifted with a special dimension of love and tenderness for their children, but others may also cherish children, even if they did not bring them into the world: single fathers raising families; adoptive parents; aunts; uncles; teachers; nurses; and so on. Today particularly, let us remember a special person (or special persons) in our lives who loved and comforted us in a way that reflects the love of God-- the Father, and the Mother, Almighty!

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