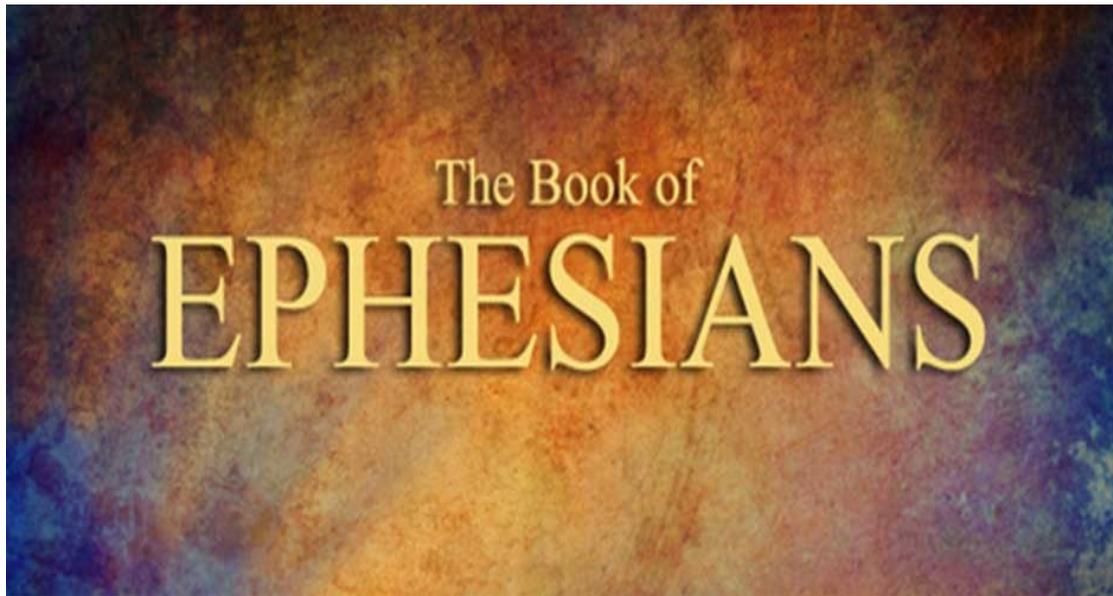


Welcome All
to
Sunday Worship Service



August 1 , 2021

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

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
August 1, 2021
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 12

Facemasks are optional for those who have been fully vaccinated, but we kindly ask those who are not fully vaccinated to wear their masks at all times. Anyone wearing a mask, for whatever reason, will always be respected.

Prelude “Arioso”

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!**

Call to Worship

One: Come, let us worship our God,
for there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Parent of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.

All: **We come with humility, gentleness, and patience,
bearing with one another in love.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

**Giver of life,
every day you rain down manna from heaven
so that we can eat the bread of angels.
Turn our complaints into gratitude,
that we, as a church,
may mature into the body of the risen Christ
given for the life of the world. Amen.**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

* **Opening Hymn:** “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

No. 483

* **Invitation to Confession**

Let us confess our sin together,
for we have all fallen short of the glory of God.

* **Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**God, you have called us to live lives
worthy of the calling
to which we have been called.
But we confess to you and each other
that we have not always spoken the truth in love;
we have not always made every effort
to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Forgive us and, by your grace,
help us to grow in every way
into him who is our head, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

* **Kyrie Eleison**

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

* **Assurance of Pardon**

Sisters and brothers in Christ,
the promise of our faith is that
whoever turns to Jesus Christ
will never hunger for forgiveness
and that which gives life to the world.
That is a promise of joy and of peace,
and I invite you to share that peace with one another.

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

* **Gloria Patri** (*unison*)

**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, may the reading of your Word
be for us the bread you send from heaven
that gives life to the world. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 78:23-29

P. 538 in the Old Testament

Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;
he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.
Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;
he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;
he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.
And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

One: The Word of the Lord
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Organ Anthem: “Come to the Banquet”

Joseph M. Martin, 1996

Second Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

P. 193 in the New Testament

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.”

(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

Sermon: Grow Up!

Rev. Jim DeMent

Ephesians 4:15: But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, . . .

Silence and stillness

* **Congregational Hymn:** “Let Us Break Bread Together”

No. 513

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: For the Bread Which You Have Broken

- *V. Earle Copes, 1959*

* **Doxology** (*unison*)

**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.**

* **Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

Loving God, as you fed your people in the wilderness,
use our gifts, time, and talents as the manna
to meet the hungers of the world in which we live.
For Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

* **Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

From A Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us in the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

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

**In deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves
to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the
Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Amen.**

* **Closing Hymn:** "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

No. 144

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: Voluntary I

T. Martin Towne

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 worshipping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Sing praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love,
The God of our salvation;
With healing balm my soul is filled,
And every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away,
But through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay,
Our peace, and joy, and blessing;
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power hath made,
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of God's might,
Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory!

Thus all my gladsome way along,
I sing aloud Thy praises
That earth may hear the grateful song
My voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
Both soul and body take your part:
To God all praise and glory!

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees;
(on our knees);
Let us break bread together on our knees.
(on our knees.)

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
(on our knees);
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
(on our knees.)

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the scepter, His the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him,
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Let us praise God together on our knees;
(on our knees);
Let us praise God together on our knees.
(on our knees.)

Alleluia! Bread of angels,
Thou on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to Thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Thy footstool, heaven Thy throne.
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the eucharistic feast.





Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Lorraine Carpenter	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Kathleen McCameron	Leonard “Mac” McCameron	Roland Merrill	Mikey Ruddock
Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Member)	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, August 8
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, 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 Letter to the Ephesians is one of those New Testament books that is attributed to Paul, although modern Biblical scholars are not so sure. Unquestionably, the letter contains many traditional Pauline concepts and moral imperatives, foremost among them the unity to which Christians are called in the body of Christ. Throughout the letter, the author also includes lists of moral attributes for those whom he calls on to be “mature in the Lord.” Such morality lists are a common feature of Paul’s letters.

Still, the letter suggests that the author has never been to Ephesus (1:15-16), whereas we know Paul spent three years there. Moreover, the style of the letter varies significantly from Paul’s known epistles. Perhaps Paul’s faithful protégé, Timothy, wrote the letter in Paul’s name. Regardless, as Christians we believe that God speaks to us through the Holy Scriptures. As Presbyterians have declared for centuries, the Scriptures have sufficient authority of themselves, not of men. If Scriptures are the divinely inspired Word of God, then, beyond intellectual interest and scholastic integrity, whom God chose to write them is of no importance to the faithful.

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