

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



OCTOBER 17, 2021

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
October 17, 2021, 10:30 a.m.
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 23

*Facemasks are optional for those
who have been fully vaccinated, but
you are always welcome to wear your mask
and you will always be respected.
Social distancing is still maintained.
If you wish to sing aloud,
please sit in the front half of the Sanctuary.*

Prelude: Prelude in B Flat

- W.A. Mozart, (1756-1791)

Welcome and Announcements

*** Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: The Lord is our dwelling place,

All: **a home of peace and plenty.**

One: The Lord is our dwelling place,

All: **a refuge when trouble is near.**

One: The Lord is our dwelling place,

All: **a temple that will stand forever!**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

We give you thanks and praise, O God,
that you have called us to this place
to hear the promise of your holy word,
to be immersed in the font of your grace,
and to drink the cup of your blessing.

Draw us deeper into your presence
and send us out to love and serve;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*** Opening Hymn:** I Sing the Almighty Power of God

No. 288

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

* **Invitation to Confession**

Like sheep we all have gone astray,
but like a faithful, loving shepherd,
God seeks us out and calls us home.
Let us confess our sin.

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

**Lord Jesus Christ, you know our sin.
We want you to do whatever we ask of you,
but we are unwilling to do what you ask of us.
We want to sit beside you in your glory,
but we fail to stand beside you in your suffering.
We want to be first in your great kingdom,
but we are among the last to serve the least.
Forgive us. Pour out your mercy upon us
and wash us clean in your saving grace.
All this we ask in your holy name. Amen.**

* **Kyrie Eleison** (*unison*)

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

* **Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the promise of the Lord:
Those who love me, I will deliver.
When you call me, I will answer.
I will rescue you from danger
and show you my salvation.

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

O Lord, by the power of your Spirit,
lift us up into your presence
to hear the promise of your word
and know the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 104: 1-9, 24, 35

P.P 554-556 in the Old Testament

Bless the LORD, O my soul.

O LORD my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,
wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,
you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,
you make the clouds your chariot,
you ride on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it shall never be shaken.
You cover it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.
At your rebuke they flee;
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.
They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys
to the place that you appointed for them.
You set a boundary that they may not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.

O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Praise the LORD!

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Organ Anthem: My Father's World

- E.J. Lorenz, 1949

Second Scripture Reading: Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you. And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

(Continued on next page)

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Sermon: Self-service or Self-sacrifice?

Rev. Jim DeMent

Mark 10:43-44: “But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.”

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: Called as Partners in Christ’s Service

No. 343

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Morning Has Broken

- *Gaelic Melody*

* **Doxology** (*unison*)

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

Holy God, we give you thanks
for all your gifts of goodness and grace.
Receive these gifts from our hands
as a sacrifice of praise to you
and teach us to honor you each day
by our obedience to your will;
through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

* **Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle’s 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:** All Creatures of Our God and King

No. 455

* **Charge**

* **Benediction**

Postlude: God Folds the Mountains Out of Rock

- *Carol Doran, 1985*

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

I Sing the Almighty 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,
You, God, are present there.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
God 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!

Called as Partners in Christ’s Service

Called as partners in Christ’s service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfill God’s chosen end.

Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other’s burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action,
Make us colleagues, free and fair.

Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring,
Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God’s people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.

So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person’s sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy God to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest us both warmth and light,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fertile earth, that day by day
Unfoldest blessings on your way,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in Thee grow,
Let them God's glory also show!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Lorraine Carpenter	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Kathleen McCameron	Leonard “Mac” McCameron	Mikey Ruddock	
Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Members)	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)	Philip Chang	

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)**

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

Sunday, October 24
10:30 AM Worship Service
**PDS Homecoming*

*A copy of our
“COVID-19 Pandemic
Public Health and Safety Protocols
for In-Person Gatherings
at the Church
Updated on the Day of Pentecost
May 23, 2021”
can be obtained as you enter the church
or at our website:
www.fpcofvictoria.org.*

**FPC Victoria Servant Leadership
Session Members**

Jim DeMent, Moderator
John Horadam, Worship
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session
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

Lynn McAuley, Presbyterian Women
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
Jim Stokes, Treasurer
Henry Hauschild, Historian

Pastor’s Notes

James and John, the “Sons of Thunder” (Mark 3:17), are portrayed on the Bulletin cover in classic orthodox iconography. The Sons of Thunder were not without vanity and ambition as this morning’s Scripture reading from the Gospel According to Mark reveals.

One of the many reasons your pastor loves the Bible is that it records the good, bad, and ugly about not just the mere unnamed mortals who pass through its pages but also about the most sacred prophets, apostles, and disciples of our faith, who in a more heavily edited, more propaganda-oriented version of this book, would have had their virtues embellished and their shortcomings painted over. Not so in the sacred text of the Bible! It does not varnish or whitewash the truth. If our heroes have character flaws (just like us!), the Bible reveals them.

The Bible faithfully records the ugliness of the human condition so that it may authentically guide us to our Lord and Savior notwithstanding such ugliness. Jesus uses the shortcomings of James and John, and of us all, as an opportunity to teach about selflessness versus selfishness, about service versus domination. May we have the eyes to see and the ears to hear what Jesus teaches us about how to challenge our sinfulness in order to serve him and our neighbors in spite of our shortcomings!

Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
Erica Colding, Office Administrator

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
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