

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



NOVEMBER 21, 2021

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

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
November 21, 2021
Christ the King/Reign of Christ

*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.*

Prelude: O King of Peace

- Francis E. Aulback, 1959

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Choral Introit: To God Be the Glory

Andre Crouch, 1971

Call to Worship

One: God established the world from of old.

All: **God's reign shall never end.**

One: God delivered us in freedom and truth.

All: **God's love is everlasting.**

Litany for the Reign of Christ

Let the heavens be glad
and let the earth rejoice!

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The Lord is robed in majesty
and girded in strength.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God has established the world,
and God's realm will never be shaken.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The kingdom of this world
has become the kingdom of our Lord.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

(continued on next page)

Litany for the Reign of Christ *(continued)*

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior,
you pour out your power for the powerless
and your salvation for the lost.

Remember us in your new creation,
so that we may live in peace with you
in the presence of the Holy One,
to whom be all honor and glory,
through you, in the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day *(unison)*

**Holy God,
creator of all that is and is to come,
you made the world and called it good.
We thank you and praise you,
for we have wreaked havoc on your good creation,
yet you promise to make all things whole
and live among us in joy and peace.
Keep us watchful for Christ's coming,
enliven our hope,
and support us through the birth
of your new creation,
that we may welcome you with songs of praise. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

No. 151

***Invitation to Confession**

Jesus loves us and frees us from our sins
therefore, let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

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

**Holy God,
how often we trust in the promises of earthly rulers
instead of the power of your love;
help us to turn our hearts toward you.
Restore us in your love, and set us free
to forgive as we have been forgiven,
by the grace and mercy of Christ. Amen.**

***Kyrie Eleison**

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

Please stand in body or spirit

***Assurance of Pardon**

Sisters and brothers, God loves us, forgives us,
and frees us from our sins; therefore be at peace.

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 of Illumination

Come, Holy Spirit; open our hearts to receive a word of truth,
then set us free to follow in the power of Christ's love. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

P.245 in the New Testament

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and free us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Organ Anthem: At the Name of Jesus

Caroline M. Noel, 1870/Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

Second Scripture Reading: John 18:33-38

P. 113 in the New Testament

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

Sermon: What is Truth

Rev. Jim DeMent

John 18:38: Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

***Congregational Hymn:** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

No. 142

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Seek Ye First

-Karen Lafferty, b. 1948

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

Holy God, you call us from every tribe,
language, people, and nation
to share in your everlasting kingdom.
Bless these gifts that we offer
that we may extend your blessing to others,
in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***Doxology**

***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 and the Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn** (*silently singing*): "Rejoice, The Lord Is King"

No. 155

Choral Benediction: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

-Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

Postlude: All Hail the Power of Jesus's Name (Diadem)

- James Ellor, 1838

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns that Robert Wyatt will be playing for this "Virtual 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). We encourage you to read and sing along at home, as Robert plays the hymns he has selected with comfort, hope, strength, and courage in, now, the Season after Pentecost. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of peace;
Whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end;
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified:
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends their burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.



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!

Rejoice, The Lord is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
And triumph evermore:

Rejoice in glorious hope!
For Christ, the Judge, shall come
To glorify the saints
For their eternal home:

God's kingdom cannot fail,
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:

Refrain:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
CALLED FOR DECEMBER 5, 2021**

The Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation to be held at the conclusion of the worship service on Sunday, December 5, 2021. During this brief meeting, the Chair of the Congregation Nominating Committee, Billy Leske, will report on the recommendations of the CNC, specifically that Francie Byrne, Patrick Patterson, and Becky Richter be elected to serve on the Session for a three-year term (the Class of 2024) commencing January 1, 2022.

The Moderator will invite additional nominations from the floor, if there be any. Before submitting someone to be considered for election to the Session, however, please be sure and confirm with that individual that he or she would be willing to serve if elected.

At the end of such discussion as the congregation may desire, a vote will be taken to elect the members of the Session Class of 2024. May God grant us and our new leaders strength, wisdom, and perseverance as First Presbyterian Church enters the coming calendar year with hope, promise, and continued service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)	
Kathleen McCameron	Leonard "Mac" McCameron	Maria Pezeshki (Mother of Leila Galvan)	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

Thursday November 25-26

Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Church office will be closed

Sunday, November 28

10:30 AM Worship Service

***A copy of our
"COVID-19 Pandemic
Public Health and Safety Protocols
for In-Person Gatherings"
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, 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

The Bulletin cover features a painting by the Russian realist painter, Nikolai Nikolaevich Ge (1831-1894). It is entitled "Quod Est Veritas?" (What Is Truth?) and depicts Pilate's response to Jesus' statement, "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice" (John 18:37-38).

Notice that Ge paints Pilate and Jesus alone in conversation, although John is not specific on this point. Notice, also, the contrast between the well groomed, well dressed Pilate and the scruffy prophet from Nazareth who stands before him with his back to the wall, yet defiant-- such a contrast between the power and glory of the secular world and the humbleness of the One whom God sent to live among us "to testify to the truth" (John 18:37).

Tolstoy is reported to have been enthralled by Ge's painting, about which he said that it embodied the "most simple motif: Christ and his teaching in conflict with the teaching of the world." Indeed, the conflict between the truth as the world perceives it and the truth as God would have us understand it!

Clergy, Music, and Administration

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

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
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info@fpcofvictoria.org