

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JANUARY 9, 2022

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
January 9, 2022
Baptism of the Lord

Prelude: All Beautiful the March of Days

- 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: The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

All: **And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"**

One: Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.

All: **Let us worship God in holy splendor.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice affirmed your love in Jesus for the healing of the human race and all creation.

By water and word you lovingly invite us into this same life-giving mission.

May your Spirit,
moving like a stream of water flowing from its source,
work in us this day to realize your vision
of a world made new in Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Opening Hymn** : "How Firm A Foundation "

No. 361

Litany for the Baptism of the Lord

One: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep,
and God said: Let there be light.

All: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

(Continued on next page)

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Litany for the Baptism of the Lord (*continued*)

All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

One: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.

All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

One: When Jesus was baptized by John,
suddenly the heavens were opened.

All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

One: And as Jesus had come out of the water and was praying,
the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

One: And a voice said: You are my Son, the Beloved;
with you I am well pleased.

All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

***Invitation to Confession**

God loves us and calls us each by name.
Knowing we are eternally forgiven and infinitely loved,
let us boldly confess our sins before God.

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

**We are precious in your sight,
yet we often forget that we are your beloved.
We confess that our love is fickle and wavering.
We follow selfish goals
and deny that our way of life harms others
and hurts your world.
We are sorry and we want to change.
Create in us a clean heart,
strengthen our resolve,
reconcile us one to another,
and bless us with your peace. Amen.**

***Kyrie Eleison**

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

Beloved, God forgives your sins;
know that you are pardoned
and be at peace to love the Lord and serve the world.
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Gloria Patri**

Prayer of Illumination

Glorious God,
when Jesus was baptized
for your healing mission
the heavens opened in a flash of glory
as vision and voice blazed upon the waters.
May your Spirit so burn in us
that we hear your word translated into deed
and follow Jesus in paths of justice, right relationship,
and peace. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

P. 672 in the Old Testament

But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Anthem: When Jesus Came to Jordan

Fred Pratt Green, 1973/ William Walker, 1835

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P. 60 in the New Testament

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John,
whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but
one who is more powerful than I is coming;

(Continued on next page)

Second Scripture Reading (*continued*):

I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Sermon: Named and Claimed in Baptism

Rev. Jim DeMent

Luke 1:22: And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Silence and stillness

***Congregational Hymn:** “Baptized in Water ”

No. 492

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Come Down, O Love Divine

Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

***Doxology**

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

**O God,
at his baptism, you acknowledged Jesus as your beloved Son,
and through him you opened to us a way
to become your children by grace.
May these gifts we return to you
be a sign of our dedication to live as your faithful daughters and sons,
born in the waters of baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

***Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles’ 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: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ”

No. 356

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: Blessed Assurance

Played by C. F. Schneider

- Fanny Crosby

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 2

Verse 3
Verse 4

How Firm A Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God’s excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress

“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”

Baptized in Water

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation,
Trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God’s praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit,
We are God’s children,
Joyfully now God’s praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
One with His rising,
Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God’s praises we sing.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.



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)

Linda Patterson

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

Monday, January 10

2:00 PM Mary and Martha Circle

6:00 PM Session Meeting

Saturday, January 15

9:00 AM Group Book Study

Sunday, January 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.*

FPC Victoria Servant Leadership

Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator

Francis Byrne

John Horadam

Lynn McAuley

Dawn Neel

Patrick Patterson

Becky Richter

Susan Salinas

Gayla Whitaker

Bonnie Wilkinson

Other

Lynn McAuley, Presbyterian Women

Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School

Jim Stokes, Treasurer

Henry Hauschild, Historian

Bulletin Cover

Appearing on our Bulletin cover this morning is an oil on canvas painting by the contemporary artist, David Zelenka. The work is entitled *Baptism of Christ* and is from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN (<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/ink.pl?RC=56385>). Reprinted pursuant to license granted at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/deed.en>.

The authors of all four Gospels record that, upon the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus from heaven "like a dove." Just as the dove, represented vividly in Zelenka's painting, descended upon Jesus at his baptism, Christians are comforted by the knowledge that at each of our own baptisms the Holy Spirit descends into our lives. God is in his heaven, Jesus Christ sits at his right hand in heaven, and the Holy Spirit is our constant companion-- the source of faith, wisdom, and holy insight throughout our lives.

As we worship together on this Baptism of the Lord Sunday, let us remember that in our baptism we, like our Savior, have received the gift of the Holy Spirit. As we find our way forward in the New Year, let us not forget to consult this precious gift for strength, comfort, and guidance.

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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