

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



February 6, 2022

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
February, 6 2022
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude "Bread of the World"

*-John S. B. Hodges, 1868
-arr. Gordon Young, 1964*

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Introit: Light of The World, We Hail Thee

*- John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875/
William Walker 1809-1875*

Call to Worship

One: In the sanctuary, God, the Holy One,
whose glory fills the whole earth, calls us.

All: **Beside the sea, along ordinary paths,
in our daily work, God calls us.**

One: We respond with our whole heart,
singing God's praise and giving thanks.

All: **In steadfast love, God fulfills
the divine purposes for our lives.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy One,
earth and heaven reverberate with your glory,
and humans and angels alike sing your praises.
Open our minds to your breathtaking work in the world,
even as you call us to spread the good news of Jesus Christ,
our mentor and savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

No. 446

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

***Invitation to Confession**

Let us turn to the most holy One and confess our sin,
confident in God's faithful and steadfast love for us.

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

**God of the universe and Creator of all that is,
we admit that we fail to be honest about our lives
and in the politics of life.
Sometimes we are deceitful;
other times we judge ourselves harshly
and feel unworthy of your call on our lives.
Touch us with your grace
and dispel our fear,
that we may arise with renewed spirits
to serve you, our true Sovereign. Amen.**

***Kyrie Eleison**

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

The promise is this:
God is faithful and steadfast,
eager to forgive our sin and welcome us home.
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 for Illumination

God of Exodus and Resurrection,
we are grateful for the gift of Scripture.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
enliven your Word,
that we might know the good news
and share it with others.
For the sake of Christ we ask it. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 138

P. 577 in the Old Testament

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.
All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.
For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.
The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Choir Anthem: "In Remembrance"

Regan Courtney/ Beryl Red, 1972

Second Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

P. 176 in the Old Testament

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you,
which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you
hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for
our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third
day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he
appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive,
though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one
untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an
apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his
grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it
was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so
you have come to believe.

Sermon: Witnesses

Rev. Jim DeMent

1 Corinthians 15:5-7: [He] appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

Silence and stillness

***Congregational Hymn:** "Hear the Good News of Salvation"

No. 355

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Jesus Paid It All

- *John T. Grape, 1835-1915*

***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.

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

Holy One, we give you thanks
for your generosity to us.
Bless these gifts and multiply them,
for the sake of those in need around us;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith (The Nicene Creed)**

We believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father
by whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

(Continued on next page)

Affirmation of Faith (The Nicene Creed) (*continued*)

he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.

And he shall come again with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead,
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

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

One: We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ,
for the gifts of grace we have received from your hand.

All: **Now send us forth to reflect your light,
proclaiming your saving death and resurrection
until you come again in glory. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn:** "What Wondrous Love Is This?"

No. 85

***Charge**

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction:** Walk in the Light

- Bernard Barton, 1784-1849
Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

Postlude: Aspiration

-A. Croisez OP. 100, No. 15, 1814-1886



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. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1
Verse 2

Verse 3
Verse 4

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
Whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna
Which he gives them when they pray.

Hear the Good News of Salvation

Hear the good news of salvation:
Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love You!
Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

All the sins I have committed
To my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish;
Christ forgives and so I sing:
Jesus Christ, how much I love You!
Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I Love You! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great, I Am
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!



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)	Bob Zawadzki	Philip Chang

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

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

Thursday February 10
9:30 AM PW Adele Carsner Young Circle
Sunday, February 13
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, Mission & Outreach
John Horadam, Worship
Lynn McAuley, Asst. Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship
Dawn Neel, Finance, Assistant Treasurer, Worship
Patrick Patterson, Buildings and Grounds
Becky Richter, Christian Education, Personnel
Suzanne Salinas, Mission & Outreach, Worship
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Personnel

Other

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

Pastor’s Notes

The picture on our Bulletin cover this morning is taken from an unidentifiable source in the public domain. Your pastor likes it because it is an exquisite example of how modern imaginations can corrupt the context of historical events in the Bible. Of course, I am all for artistic license in works of art, but we must be careful about too much ‘license’ in quoting Scripture out of context. These several Sundays we are studying Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians in the context of the circumstances that Paul encountered within a specific congregation in Corinth. As Paul responds to the spiritual and secular upheavals in that congregation, we can learn much. Nevertheless, we must never ignore the circumstances in which he is writing, even if such circumstances seem very familiar to us 2,000 years later.

The picture on the bulletin cover presents a romanticized version of the artist’s vision of Paul at work. In fact, however, Paul did not write his own letters; he dictated them. And chances are his scrivener was not writing on a beautiful writing desk constructed of polished wood. Perhaps most out of place are the bound volumes (which did not exist in the First Century) to Paul’s right on the desk. When the artist paints, the hand is guided by the muse of imagination-- which is fine. When we read scripture, however, we must allow the Holy Spirit (and not our pre-conceived convictions) to guide our heart and our faith.

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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