

# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



APRIL 24, 2022

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

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
April, 24 2022  
Second Sunday of Easter

- Arthur H. Messiter, 1834-1916 / arr. Franklin Ritter, 1991

Prelude: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
All: And also with you!

Introt: Come, Ye Faithful, Raise The Strain

- John of Damascus, 675-749,  
Arthur Seymour Sullivan, 1842-1900

Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen!  
All: **Christ is risen indeed!**  
One: Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space!  
Celebrate God in all places under heaven.  
All: **Give praise for God's mighty deeds!**  
**Give praise for God's resurrecting power!**  
One: Praise God with fanfare of trumpets.  
All: **Praise God with the harp and the cello!**  
One: Praise God with tambourines and dancing!  
All: **Praise God with flutes and guitars!**  
One: Praise God with cymbals and drums!  
All: **Let everything with life and breath praise God!**

Prayer of the Day (unison)

God of the Resurrection, you open the tomb  
and invite us to sing and dance in the  
new life you give us.

In Jesus Christ,  
whose wounds are not erased but glorified in resurrection,  
touch our wounds that they may be transformed  
into channels of healing for others.  
Holy Spirit, breathe into us the power to forgive so that all  
may have new life.  
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn : "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

No. 482

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

### **\*Invitation to Confession**

When we keep our fears and faults locked up inside us,  
it is hard to be healed and receive new life.

So let us open ourselves to God in confession,  
trusting the Lord's desire to give us peace.

### **\*Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts,**  
**when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world,**  
**forgive us and help us to find our voice.**

**When we are afraid to forgive and to love again,**  
**forgive us and give us the power to forgive.**

**When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority,**  
**join with the weak to make us all strong.**

**When we are confined by our hurts,**  
**touch us with your wounded hands and set us free.**

**When we are locked behind our doubts and fears,**  
**pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.**

### **\*Kyrie Eleison**

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

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

Christ comes with healing light  
into our locked places and shadowy hurts,  
resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life.  
As God's own forgiven people,  
go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world.

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**

Living God,  
as the risen Christ came into the locked room of  
the first disciples,  
may your Word enter into us,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
so that we who have not seen may yet believe. **Amen.**

### **First Scripture Reading:** Acts 5:27-32

P. 123 in the New Testament

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

### **Anthem:** Come, Ye Faithful

-arr. Edward Broughton, 1979

### **Second Scripture Reading:** John 20:19-31

P.P. 114-115 in the New Testament

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

### **Sermon:** Doubt

Rev. Jim DeMent

John 20:25: "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

*Silence and stillness*

**\*Congregational Hymn:** “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

No. 316

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

-Donald Fishel, 1973

**\*Doxology (unison)**

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

Holy One,  
bless our offerings and transform them  
into healing for the wounded,  
hope for the disheartened,  
courage for the frightened,  
and faith for the embittered.  
In the name of Jesus Christ,  
your faithful witness,  
the first resurrected, and  
ruler of the sovereigns of the earth. Amen

**\*Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed) (unison)**

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:** “Lift High the Cross”

No. 371

**Charge**

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction:** O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

-John Tisserand, D. 1494  
15th Century French Tune

**Postlude:** Hail Thee, Festival Day

-Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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 ([cdli.com](http://cdli.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

**Praise Ye The Lord, the Almighty**

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty,  
The King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him,  
For He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
Now to His temple draw near;  
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er  
All things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings,  
Yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen  
How thy desires e're have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
Come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen  
Sound from His people again;  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

## [Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests](#)

Kathryn Amsler

Gloria Aoueille

Bette Austin

Nathan Galvan  
(Son of Leila Galvan)

Cooper Hampton  
(Grandson of Bob & Gayla Whitaker)

Kathleen McCameron

Leonard "Mac" McCameron

Linda Patterson

Maria Pezeski  
(Mother of Leila Galvan)

Mikey Ruddock

Jere Swoboda  
(Prior FPC Member)

Carol Wisdom  
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Bonnie Wilkinson (361. 571.7081); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)

## [FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service](#)

### Friday, April 29

7:00 PM Victoria Civic Chorus and Organ Concert

### Sunday, May 1

10:30 AM Worship Service

The Lord's Supper

## [FPC Victoria Servant Leadership Session Members](#)

Jim DeMent, Moderator  
 Francis Byrne, Mission & Outreach  
 John Horadam, Buildings & Grounds  
 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](#)

On our Bulletin cover this morning appears a statue, "Christ and St. Thomas," by Andrea del Verrocchio (1435-1488), an Italian sculpturer, painter, and goldsmith from Florence. This work now stands in the Orsanmichele Church and Museum in that same city.

Although Christ and Thomas more resemble nobility from Southern Europe than natives of Galilee, your pastor likes this work of art because, unlike in so many artistic depictions of this famous scene, Thomas is not touching any of Christ's wounds. The Bible records only that when Jesus showed Thomas his wounds, Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). Thomas first said that he would not believe that Jesus appeared to the other disciples "unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side" (John 20:25). When Thomas encountered the Risen Christ, however, none of that mattered any more.

The same is true when we encounter Jesus in Scripture, in the faith of one whom we love and trust, in a moment of crisis, or in a moment of stillness and reflection. When, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we encounter Jesus in our hearts, our senses no longer matter. We cannot see, touch, or feel faith— we can only respond in recognition, as Thomas did.

## [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  
 361.575.2441  
 info@fpcofvictoria.org

## **Breath on Me, Breath of God**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
 Fill me with life anew,  
 That I may love what Thou dost love,  
 And do what Thou wouldest do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
 Until my heart is pure,  
 Until with Thee I will one will,  
 To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
 Till I am wholly Thine,  
 Until this earthly part of me  
 Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
 So shall I never die,  
 But live with Thee the perfect life  
 Of Thine eternity.

## **Lift High the Cross**

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,  
 The Lamb victorious, Christ the Son of God.  
*Refrain*

Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
 Bears on the brow the seal of him who died.  
*Refrain*

*Refrain:*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
 Till all the world adore His sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
 Your death has brought us life eternally.  
*Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
 Praise to the Crucified for victory.  
*Refrain*