

Welcome All  
to  
Sunday Worship Service



July 3, 2022

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

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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

First Presbyterian Church  
July 3, 2022  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

**Prelude** “Praise! Praise!”

- *George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

**Call to Worship**

One: Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful:

All: give thanks in holy remembrance.

**Prayer of the Day** (*unison*)

Holy God, you are for all the world  
a river of shelter and nourishment,  
a city of joy and riches,  
the defender of those you love.  
Take us into your arms again this day  
and feed us with the power of your comfort;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn:** “Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

No. 429

**\*Invitation to Confession**

Secure in the promise of God’s knowledge of us,  
and trusting in God’s readiness to forgive,  
let us confess our sin.

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

**Source of all that gives us life,  
we have turned away from your authority  
to our own small concerns.  
Forgive us for our failure to bear one another's burdens,  
for boasting of anything but your cross,  
for believing in our own power to justify our lives,  
and for denying your call to take comfort in you alone.  
Have mercy on us, and lead us to the river of life  
so that in all we do, we may honor your name. Amen.**

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

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

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Peace!  
Peace is what we receive from God  
when we know our sins are forgiven.  
Peace is what we have when we know  
we are not alone in our journey of life.  
Peace is God's gracious gift to us all.  
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**

Bring us to the heart of your Word, O God,  
and feed us on your truth,  
that we may have the strength you have promised  
your children. **Amen.**

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,  
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.  
O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.  
O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,  
restored me to life from among those gone  
down to the Pit.  
Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.  
For his anger is but for a moment;  
his favor is for a lifetime.  
Weeping may linger for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.  
As for me, I said in my prosperity,  
“I shall never be moved.”  
By your favor, O LORD,

you had established me as a strong mountain;  
you hid your face;  
I was dismayed.  
To you, O LORD, I cried,  
and to the LORD I made supplication:  
“What profit is there in my death,  
if I go down to the Pit?  
Will the dust praise you?  
Will it tell of your faithfulness?  
Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!  
O LORD, be my helper!”  
You have turned my mourning into dancing;  
you have taken off my sackcloth  
and clothed me with joy,  
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.  
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you  
forever.

**Anthem:** “A Patriotic Medley ”

*-Robert Wyatt*

**Second Scripture Reading:** Galatians 6:1-6

P. 195 in the New Testament

My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads.

Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

**Sermon:** Living in the Paradox

Rev. Jim DeMent

Galatians 6:8: If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

*Silence and stillness*

**\*Congregational Hymn:** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

No. 101

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** My Jesus, I Love Thee

*-Adoniram J. Gordon, 1894*

**\*Doxology** (*unison*)

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

In you, O God, we take refuge.  
You are the source of all our hope,  
the font of all wisdom.  
You created the world and feed it daily.  
You cradle your people in safety.  
You call your creatures everywhere  
to grow and live according to your purposes.  
You sent us your Son  
to give life and vision.  
You guard us with your Holy Spirit  
even in the midst of those who would destroy  
what you have made.  
Let these gifts be signs of your creative hand  
in the places where there is need.  
Bless the work of your people.  
We ask this in the name of the one  
who knows us through and through—  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

*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**

**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: Eternal God,  
we give you thanks for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.

All: **Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your Spirit  
to give ourselves for others  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

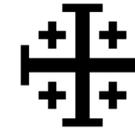
No. 84

**\*Charge**

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude:** Lift Every Voice

*-J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921*



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

### Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Lord, you give the great commission:  
"Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission,  
And the gospel go unheard,  
Help us witness to you purpose  
With renewed integrity;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry .

Lord, you call us to your service:  
"In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise,  
Life abundant meant for each,  
Give us all new fervor, draw us  
Closer in community;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry .

Lord, you make the common holy:  
"This my body, this my blood."  
Let us all, for earth's true glory,  
Daily lift life heavenward,  
Asking that the world around us  
Share your children's liberty;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
All that you so freely give.  
May you care and mercy lead us  
To a just society;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry

### When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

### In the Cross of Christ I Glory

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me:  
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022**

The Session of  
First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas  
has called a  
**Congregational Meeting**  
immediately following our 10:30 a.m. worship service on  
**Sunday, July 17, 2022.**

The purpose of the meeting is for the Congregation  
to receive a report on the financial affairs of the Church  
and to discuss possible modifications and adjustments  
to the church's operating budget for the remainder of the year.

The meeting will be held in  
**Fellowship Hall**  
following a potluck luncheon.  
The Session believes that this meeting  
will be of profound importance  
in the life of our beloved church,  
and thus all who are devoted to its future  
are encouraged to be present.

-----



The Church Office will be *closed*  
**Monday and Tuesday, July 4-5, 2019.**  
Erica Colding will be enjoying a  
brief vacation over the Fourth of July weekend,  
and Pastor Jim will be involved in  
work for Mission Presbytery on July 5th.

Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Gloria Aouelle	Bette Austin	Bette Burris	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Kathleen McCameron	Linda Patterson	Maria Pezeski (Mother of Leila Galvan)	Mikey Ruddock
Jim Stokes	Bob & Gayla Whitaker	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)	

For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

**Monday, July 4**  
Happy Independence Day  
The Church office will be closed for the holiday.

**Tuesday July 5**  
The Church office will be closed for the holiday.

**Wednesday, July 6**  
4:00 PM Worship Committee meeting

**Sunday, July 10**  
10:30 AM Worship Service

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

The Bible is a source of comfort, wisdom, truth, and security for God's people. God created us, God loves us, and God will not abandon us in life or in death are some of the basic revelations to Christians in Holy Scripture, but what about the basic questions of how to live and act, what morals to embrace, what vices to avoid, what ways to worship, how to choose between good and evil, how to behave in a Christ-honoring way?

Whatever else may be said about the Apostle Paul, he was not afraid to address such questions in the letters he wrote to Christian communities in Greece and Asia Minor. To those who seek order, consistency, and uniformity, however, Paul can be disappointing. Are men and women equal (Gal. 3:28), or should women not speak in church (1 Cor. 14:33)? Is there no longer slave or free (Gal. 3:28), or should slaves obey their masters (Eph. 6:5)? Paul's writings are full of inconsistency, contradiction, and paradox.

In our own lives, we live with inconsistencies, contradictions, and paradoxes every day, and it was no different for the men and women to whom Paul evangelized. I, for one, read Paul together with the words of Jesus Christ and God's revelations through the Holy Spirit. To pick and choose Paul's words out of context, or in the context of our own convenient value system, is dangerous and foolish. Our God is sovereign, and our paradox is that though we aspire to understand God through faith, we are less than God and thus can never fully understand God until we, like Christ, are resurrected into eternal life

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