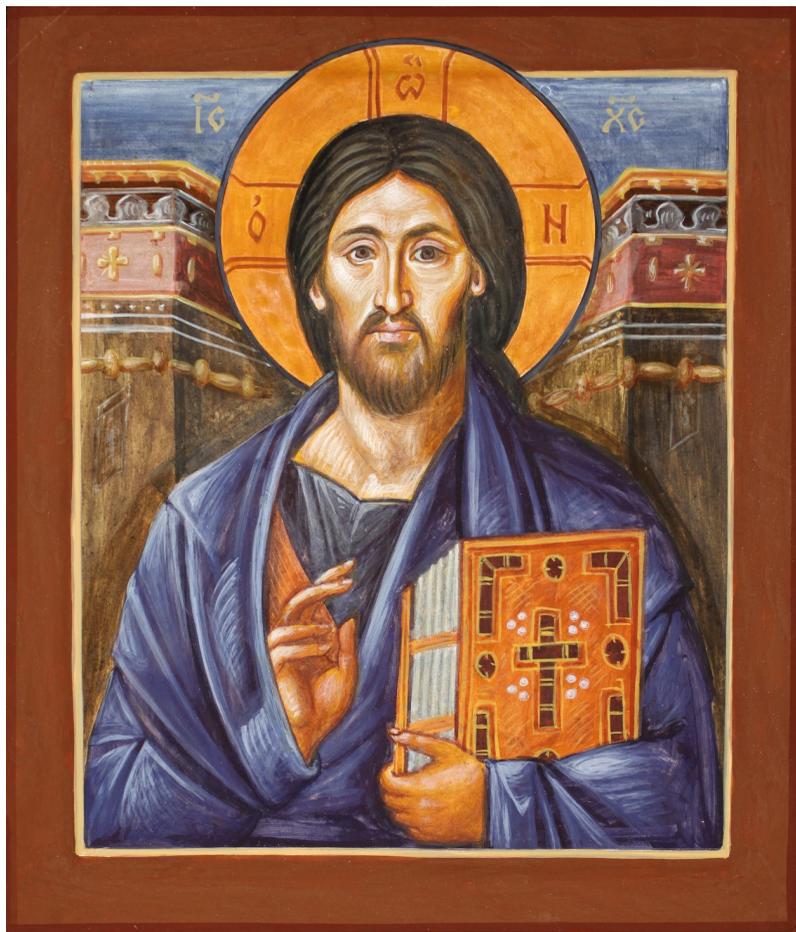


Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JULY, 17 2022

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
July, 17 2022 10:30 a.m.
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude: All Creatures of Our God and King

- German Melody arr. Lani Smith, 1940

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: In Jesus Christ
all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.
Through him God was reconciled to all things
in heaven and on earth, even to us,
that we might be holy and blameless before God.

All: **In awe and gratitude,
let us worship the Lord our God.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Almighty God,
you brought creation into being through Christ,
and in Christ all things find their purpose.
Open our eyes to see the world as your gift
and to use your gifts for the sake of Christ,
that through the witness of our lives
the gospel may be proclaimed to all people. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

No. 288

*Invitation to Confession

With humble and trusting hearts,
let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

Merciful God,
we confess that we have been distracted with
many things
and have not loved you with our whole heart
and strength.
We have not paid attention to your Word.
We have allowed the poor to be neglected and the
weak to be oppressed.
We have been impatient in worship and insincere in
our dealings with others.
We have ignored signs of injustice and disregarded
warnings of judgment.
Forgive us, we pray, and teach us repentance.
Free us from our habits of pride,
and make us steadfast in faith,
that we may live as those who are reconciled with you
in Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Kyrie Eleison**

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

Though we were once estranged,
in Jesus Christ we have been reconciled with God.
Baptized, forgiven, and freed,
we are one with the Lord and with each other.
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

O God, as the Scriptures are read and the gospel proclaimed,
open our ears to hear your Word,
open our eyes to see your truth,
and open our hearts to receive your grace. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 52

P. 521 in the Old Testament

Why do you boast, O mighty one,
of mischief done against the godly?
All day long you are plotting destruction.
Your tongue is like a sharp razor,
you worker of treachery.
You love evil more than good
and lying more than speaking the truth.
You love all words that devour,
O deceitful tongue.
But God will break you down forever;
he will snatch and tear you from your tent;
he will uproot you from the land
of the living.

The righteous will see and fear
and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,
“See the one who would not take
refuge in God
but trusted in abundant riches
and sought refuge in wealth!”
But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.
I will thank you forever
because of what you have done.
In the presence of the faithful
I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

Anthem: The Church Within Us

-Schneiser - Hustad

Solo by Dawn Neel

Second Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

P. 200 in the New Testament

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Sermon: Who Is Jesus?

Rev. Jim DeMent

Colossians 1:15: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation . . .

Silence and stillness

***Congregational Hymn:** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

No. 356

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Jesus Calls Us

-William H. Jupe, 1874

***Doxology** (*unison*)

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

O God,
receive these gifts, which are the product of our labors,
and let us not forget the better part of our offering,
which is our devotion to the words of life
we have received from Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,
for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—
all things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn:** “God of the Sparrow”

No. 272

Charge

Benediction

Postlude: The Heavens Are Telling

-*(From “The Creation”), Franz Joseph Haydn, 1798*

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 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God’s command,
And all the stars obey.

There's not a plant or flower below
But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
Is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be,
You, God, are present there.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,
Where'er I turn my eyes;
If I survey the ground I tread,
Or gaze upon the skies!

*Immediately following this morning’s worship service, please join us in Fellowship Hall
for a potluck luncheon and an important Congregational Meeting.*

Come, Thou Fount 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 redeeming 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.

Oh, 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.

God of the Sparrow

God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Gloria Aouelle	Bette Austin	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)	Fred and Bessie Hobbs (Grandparents of Keimryn Lee)
Kathleen McCameron	Linda Patterson	Maria Pezeski (Mother of Leila Galvan)	Marsha Ricottilli
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

Sunday, July 24
10:30 AM Worship Service
3:00 PM American Guild of Organist

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

Notes

Appearing on our Bulletin cover this morning is one of the most familiar icons in the Eastern Orthodox tradition of Christianity: the Christ Pantocrator. The image on our cover is from St. Catherine's Monastery at Sinai and dates from the Sixth Century. It is one of the oldest Byzantine religious icons known to archaeologists and religious scholars.

“Who is Jesus?” is perhaps the oldest question in Christianity. Today, 2,000 years later, we still ask ourselves what was the divine nature, the divine role, of Jesus Christ in God's plan for his creation?

In the icon of the Pantocrator (meaning, in Greek, “almighty, all-powerful, omnipotent”), early Christians portrayed the dual nature of Christ. The left side of Christ (the viewer's right) depicts the qualities of his human nature; the right side of Christ (the viewer's left) represents his divine qualities. Christ's right hand, opening outward, displays the universal pose of “blessing.” His left hand holds a thick book of Holy Scripture. The mysterious dual nature of Christ, Son of God and thus wholly divine yet also truly human, was and remains the first answer (but not the last!) to the question “Who is Jesus?”

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