

Welcome All
to
Sunday Worship Service



October 2, 2022

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
October 2, 2022
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
Our 181st Anniversary

Prelude "Praise to the Lord"

- Janet Rand, 1943

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Call to Worship

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

All: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

One: For the Lord is a great God;

All: a great ruler over heaven and earth!

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

God of majesty,
you love us with an everlasting love
and show us the way to justice and peace.
In Jesus Christ you have reconciled the
whole world to you
and claimed us as your own,
that we may live as Christ's body on earth and,
with all the saints, enter into your glory
on the last day. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

No. 551

*Invitation to Confession

With sincere and repentant hearts,
let us name our sins against Christ and one another.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

Sovereign God, we confess
that we are not ready for your holy realm.
You guide us toward right paths,
but we refuse to follow where you lead.
You love and feed and care for us,
but we fail to love and serve others.
Forgive us, merciful God,
so that we may rejoice in your presence;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

However long we wander,
however far we stray,
God's steadfast love endures forever.

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.

Litany for First Presbyterian Church on the Occasion of Its 181st Anniversary

Almighty God, creator of all;
Jesus Christ, head of the church;
Holy Spirit, bond of peace;
O triune God, eternal love:

Have mercy on us.

By your ministry of healing and forgiveness;
by your seeking and saving the lost;
by your words of eternal life:

Have mercy on us.

By your calling and training of apostles;
by your promise to build up your church;
by your institution of holy sacraments:

Have mercy on us.

Having blessed this congregation for over 181 years,
do not abandon us now, O Lord;
by your inspiration, by your grace:
Help us, O Lord.

Strengthen your church
at 2408 North Navarro Street
and in every place
and unite your people in faith, hope, and love:
Help us, O Lord.

Teach us to strive not for our own security
but for the salvation of the world
and the righteousness of your realm:
Help us, O Lord.

Empower us to proclaim good news to all
and to make disciples of all people:
Help us, O Lord.

Grant us wisdom, power, and love,
and call us to the work of ministry:
Help us, O Lord.

Give us grace to know and trust your word
and to show our faith in our lives:
Help us, O Lord.

Strengthen us in body and soul
through the grace of your sacraments:
Help us, O Lord

Guide us when we are perplexed,
so that we may hold fast to our faith:
Help us, O Lord

Lead us to worship you in spirit and truth,
regardless of the world's praise or contempt:
Help us, O Lord

Almighty God, as we pray for the Church universal,
we pray for your blessing on this church in this place.

Here may the faithful find salvation,
and the careless be encouraged.

Here may the lonely may find fellowship
and the lost find their way

Here may the tempted find help,
and the sorrowful comfort.

Here may the weary find rest,
and the strong be renewed.

Here may the aged find consolation
and the young be inspired;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, open your Word.
Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
that our eyes may be enlightened
and we may know the hope to which we have been called;
through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 8:7-18

P. 165 in the Old Testament

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

“Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes that I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them and when your herds and flocks have multiplied and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock. He fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, ‘My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.’ But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

Organ Anthem: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

*-German Church Hymn
-arr. Lani Smith, 1940*

Second Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

P. P. 183-184 in the New Testament

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written,

“He scatters abroad; he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Sermon: A Cheerful Giver

Rev. Jim DeMent

2 Corinthians 9:7: Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Silence and stillness

*Congregational Hymn: “O God of Earth and Space”

No. 274

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: All Things Are Thine

-“Pensum Sacrum”, 1648

*Doxology (*unison*)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

**Holy God, use us, and these gifts,
to feed the hungry, clothe the naked,
and honor your presence in all people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

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: Holy and astounding God,
At this table, in this meal,
we have been met by Christ—
the reflection of your glory,
the imprint of your being.

**All: As we go from this place
may our lives be a joyful song,
proclaiming the good news
of your righteousness and peace
for all the world. Amen**

***Charge**

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** (*unison*)

-Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880/William G Tomer, 1880

**God be with you until we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you ‘till we meet again**

**‘Till we meet, ‘till we meet
‘Till we meet at Jesus’ feet;
‘Till we meet, till we meet
God be with you ‘till we meet again.**

Postlude: Sing to the Lord a New Song

-David N. Johnson, 1968



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

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God our Maker doth provide
For our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

For the Lord our God shall come,
And shall take the harvest home;
From each field shall in that day
All offenses purge away;
Give the angels charge at last
In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store
In God’s garner ever more.

All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto God’s praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade, and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear:
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin;
There forever purified,
In Thy presence to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.

O God of Earth and Space

O God of earth and space,
Of sea and fire and air,
Your providence surrounds us here
And everywhere.
In fruit and grain and tree,
In shelter from the cold,
In cooling breezes, flowing wells,
Now as of old.

Where faithfulness is shown,
Where love and truth abound,
Where beauty graces human life,
There You are found.
Inspirer of all thought!
Creative force of art!
The melody on every tongue,
In every heart!

Wherever freedom reigns,
Where sin is overthrown,
Where justice fused with mercy rules,
There You are known.
Give us the courage clear
To make the earth a home
For all to live in harmony
In Christ's shalom.

Your word commands response
And summons us to life.
We follow, strengthened by Your grace,
In calm or strife.
Our ever present help,
Our challenge and our prod,
We praise You now and to life's end,
Eternal God.

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

All praise and thanks to God,
Who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son,
And Spirit now be given.
The one eternal God,
Whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is,
And shall be evermore.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in God’s grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world in the next.

**NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022
FOLLOWING THE 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

Pursuant to a call by the Session, notice is hereby given of a Congregational Meeting of the members of First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas to be held at the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, October 9, 2022.

The purposes of the Meeting will be (a) to consider a report from the Session regarding nominations of persons to serve on a Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) and (b) to elect, in accordance with the will of a majority of the Congregation present, persons to serve on the CNC. The task of the CNC thus elected will be to consider persons suitable for nomination to serve on the Session for designated terms in succession of current Elders who are rotating off the Session at the expiration of their respective terms on December 31, 2022. The Elders whose terms expire on that date are Dawn Neel, Susan Salinas, and Gayla Whitaker.

The newly elected CNC will report back to the Congregation, at a date to be determined in due course, with nominations of persons to fill the vacancies on the Session created by the departing Elders, and the Congregation will be asked to elect individuals who will commence their respective terms of service on the Session on January 1, 2023

[Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests](#)

Gloria Aouelle

Bette Austin

Kay Edwards

Nathan Galvan
(Son of Leila Galvan)

Billy Leske

Kathleen McCameron

Linda Patterson

Maria Pezeski
(Mother of Leila Galvan)

Mikey Ruddock

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](#)

Wednesday, October 5

10:00 AM Bible Study with Jim Stokes

4:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting

Friday, October 7

5:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

Sunday, October 9

9:30 AM “The Protestant Reformations”

Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class

10:30 AM Worship Service

11:45 AM Congregational Meeting in Fellowship Hall

[FPC Victoria Servant Leadership
Session Members](#)

Jim DeMent, Moderator

Frances 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](#)

Our Bulletin cover, a copy of an image used by Knox Presbyterian Church, Pasadena, California, reminds us that today is World Communion Sunday, a day of worship set aside for the ecumenical celebration of the Lord's Supper by Christians around the world.

World Communion Sunday was originally the brainchild of the Rev. Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr, pastor of Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg. The idea occurred to him in 1930 during his tenure as the moderator of the General Assembly of what was then known as the “northern” Presbyterian Church. The idea was formally adopted in 1936 by the Presbyterian Church as a denominational practice. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches (the precursor to the National Council of Churches) endorsed the first Sunday in October as World Communion Sunday and began to promote it to Christian churches worldwide.

As the world descended into World War II, the idea of a worldwide celebration among Christians to commemorate Christ's vision of peace and harmony by “remembering him” in common communion gathered traction and continues to this day. As new wars rage in Ukraine and elsewhere around the world, let us pray for peace as we await the final peace of Christ's return in victory.

[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

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