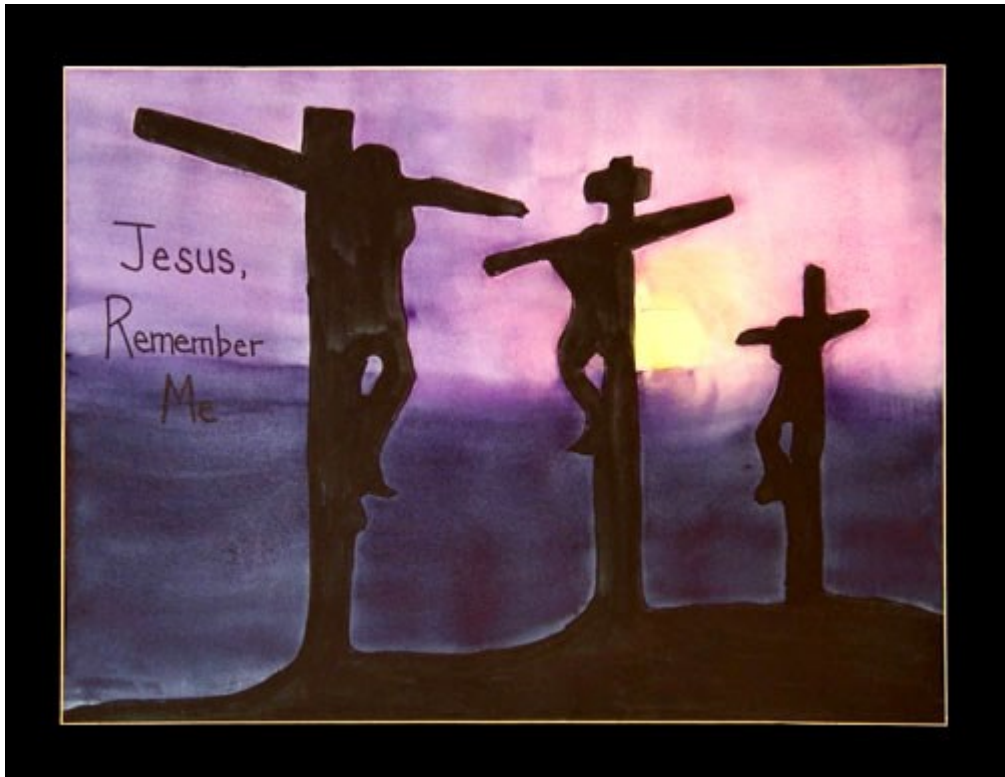


Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



NOVEMBER 20, 2022

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
November 20, 2022, 10:30 a.m.
Christ the King / Reign of Christ

Prelude: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

-John Goss, 1869 / arr. Franklin Ritter, 1978

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: Worship Christ, Eternal Son of God;
honor Christ, Incarnate Son of Mary;
serve Christ, Glorious Ruler of creation;
for to Christ belong the power and the glory of the Almighty.

All: **Praise be to God.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Almighty God,
through the Lordship of your Son, Jesus Christ,
the powers and dominions of the world obtain
their purpose,
and creation finds its meaning.
Reveal to the world the gracious rule of Christ,
end all enmity among the nations,
and bring us soon to his glorious, peaceable kingdom;
through Christ who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

No. 142

*Invitation to Confession

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

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

Almighty God,
you brought forth the world for the love of Christ,
yet we have lived in rebellion and turned away from
our created purpose.
We have acknowledged the Lordship of Christ with our lips,
but we have not honored him with our lives.
We have served the idols of wealth and privilege;
we have sought the protection of violence to oppose violence;
we have lived in fear of death and loss;
we have not loved our neighbors, nor sought reconciliation
with our enemies.
Therefore we pray:
Lord, break our rebellious will. Amen.

***Kyrie Eleison**

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

God has rescued us from the power of darkness
and transferred us into the kingdom of the beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption and the forgiveness of our sins.
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Gloria Patri** (*unison*)

No. 579

Prayer of Illumination

Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word;
by your Spirit free us from the power of darkness
and show to us the inheritance of the saints of light. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

P. 725 in the Old Testament

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear longer or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Anthem: Give Thanks

-Henry Smith, 1978

Soloist: Dawn Neel

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 23:33-43

P. 89 in the New Testament

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Sermon: The Kingdom of Calgary

Rev. Jim DeMent

Luke 23:42: Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom."

Silence and stillness

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

No. 551

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: We Gather Together

-Netherlands Folk Hymn, 1626

***Doxology** (*unison*)

No. 592

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

Almighty God,
receive our offering for the sake of Christ our Lord.
Make us worthy stewards of your gifts
and generous citizens of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ,
through whom we pray. Amen.

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

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
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 head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning,
the firstborn of 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 all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn:** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

No. 151

***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: Halifax

-George Frederick Handel, 1748

Below are 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

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him Lord of all.

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.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified:
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends their burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace;
Whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end;
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION CALLED FOR NOVEMBER 27, 2022

The Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation to be held at the conclusion of the worship service on Sunday, November 27, 2022. During this brief meeting, the Chair of the Congregation Nominating Committee, Dawn Neel, will report on the recommendations of the CNC, specifically that Donald Anderson, Joe Cohen, and Leila Galvan, be elected to serve on the Session for a three-year term (the Class of 2025) commencing January 1, 2023.

The Moderator will invite additional nominations from the floor, if there be any. Before submitting someone to be considered for election to the Session, however, please be sure and confirm with that individual that he or she would be willing to serve if elected.

At the end of such discussion as the Congregation may desire, a vote will be taken to elect the members of the Session Class of 2025. May God grant us and our new leaders strength and wisdom as First Presbyterian Church continues *Our Journey Forward*, and as we enter a new year of hope, promise, and continued service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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, November 23

10:00 AM Bible Study with Jim Stokes

2:00 PM Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday, November 24

Happy Thanksgiving

Office will be closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 25

Office will be closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, November 27

9:30 AM Advent Study

Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class

10:30 AM Worship Service

12:00 PM Congregational Meeting

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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

When Jesus tells the penitent criminal beside him, “Truly I tell you, *today* you will be with me in Paradise” (Luke 23:43), we ordinarily do not pause over the timing of the promise. Jesus and the criminals crucified beside him will die together, and two of them will be in Paradise thereafter.

In the language of the New Testament, however, the word Jesus uses (σήμερον; *sēmeron*) is less temporal than simply “today” or “before midnight.” This is same word Jesus uses, for instance, when he teaches us to pray, “give us *this day* our daily bread.” Thus, “today” may indeed mean “now” in a general sense, but it is not confined to a specific instance as, for example, a date on a calendar.

As we grow in our faith, as we struggle to resolve our “unbelief” with God’s help, Jesus promises us more than one “today.” There are many times when we need our daily bread, there are many times when we ask Christ for forgiveness, and there are many times when we ask our triune God for the assurance, in faith, of eternal life with him in the kingdom of heaven, a paradise to be sure. Every day is “today” for a Christian. Every day is “this day” when we may draw closer to our king-- our Lord and Savior. Every day is a day to celebrate the Reign of Christ!

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