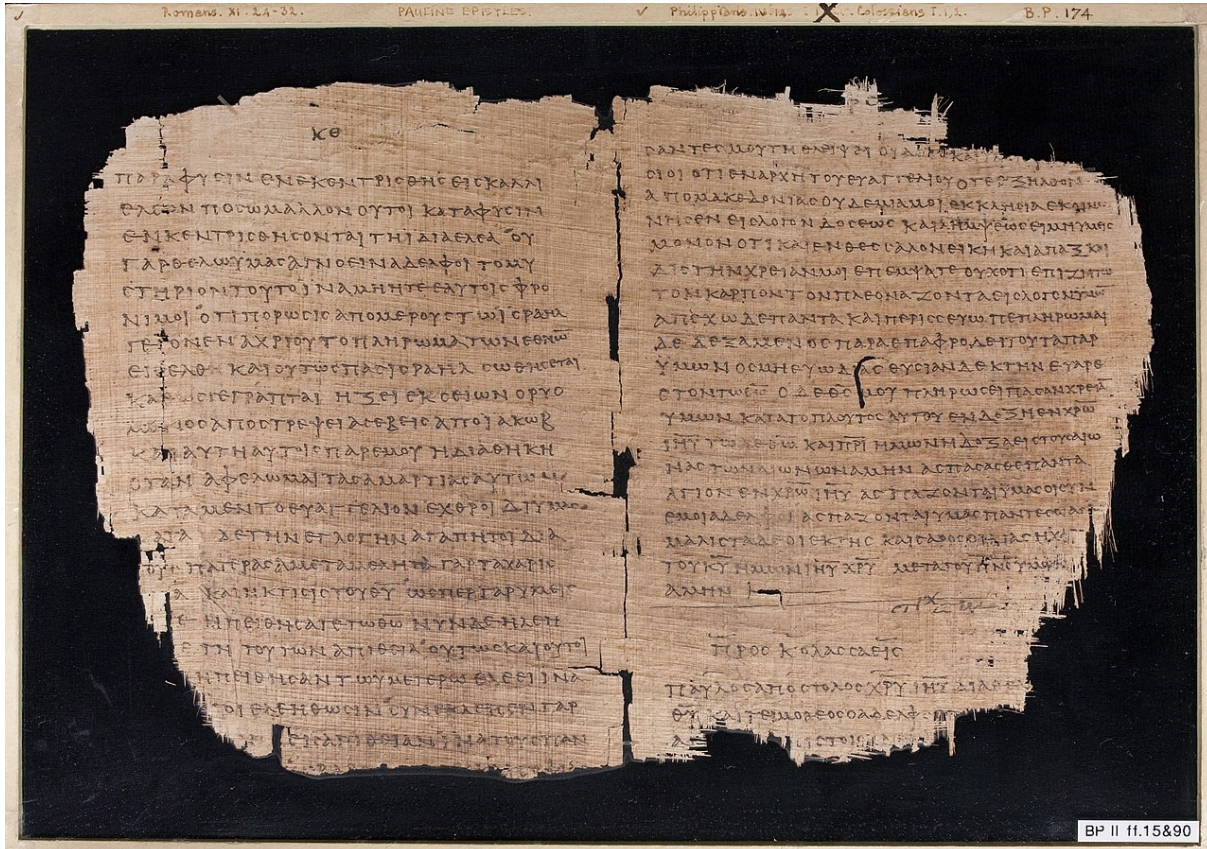


Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
March 12, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
Third Sunday in Lent



MARCH 12, 2023

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

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-Gabriel Faure, 1845-1924

Prelude: Pie Jesu

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 worship and bow down;
All: **let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.**
One: The hour is coming and is now here.
All: **In spirit and truth, let us worship God.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Lord God, Great I AM,
you are living water.
As we worship you this day
show us who we are:
channels of your love
and vessels of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

No. 446

***Invitation to Confession**

God’s love has been poured into our hearts
through the gift of the Holy Spirit.
Trusting in God’s overflowing grace,
let us confess our sin.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

Lord, you know who we are.
You know everything we have done.
We thirst for things that will never satisfy us.
We commit ourselves to things that will never last.
We worship things that will never bring salvation.
Still, you offer us the gift of living water.
Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.
Forgive us, O Lord,
and give us this living water,
so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

***Kyrie Eleison**

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

This is the good news of God's grace:
Though we were sinners,
Christ died for us.
Though we were enemies of God,
God loved us.
Once we were lost and dead—
now Christ has become our life and salvation.
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

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

Prayer of Illumination

Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures
and by the power of your Spirit,
may we hear for ourselves the good news,
and believe, because of your Word,
that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Amen.

No. 579

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 95

P. 550 in the Old Testament

O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
O that today you would listen to his voice!
Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
when your ancestors tested me,
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.
For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they do not regard my ways."
Therefore in my anger I swore,
"They shall not enter my rest."

Anthem: Man of Sorrows

-Rob Roy Perry, 1963

Second Scripture Reading: Romans 5:1-11

P. 155 in the New Testament

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Sermon: Justification

Rev. Jim DeMent

Romans 5:1-2: Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

Silence and stillness

***Congregational Hymn:** “What Wondrous Love Is This”

No. 85

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: My Song Is Love Unknown

-John Ireland, 1918

***Doxology** (*unison*)

No. 592

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

O Lord, you are our God;
we are the people of your pasture,
the sheep of your hand.
As you have fed us by your mercy,
may it be our daily bread to do your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Iona Creed

We believe that God is Present
in the darkness before the dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God
who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.
We affirm a faith
that takes us beyond a safe place:
into action, into vulnerability
and onto the streets.
We commit ourselves to work for change
and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks,
live powerfully
and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God’s new community of hope.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn:** “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

No. 84

***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: Psalm 95 Come, Sing with Joy to God

-David Clark Isele, 1979



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

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
Whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna
Which he gives them when they pray.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.

[Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests](#)

Gloria Aouelle

Bette Austin

**Nathan Galvan
(Son of Leila Galvan)**

Kathleen McCameron

**Maria Pezeski
(Mother of Leila Galvan)**

Mikey Ruddock

**Michael Cabrera
(Grandson of
Martha Tarkington)**

**Carol Wisdom
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)**

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238)**

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

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.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

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.

[FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service](#)

Monday, March 13

2:00 PM Mary and Martha Circle Meeting

6:00 PM Session Meeting

Friday March 17

10:00 AM One Great Hour of Caring

Saturday March 18

11:00 AM Presbyterian Women Luncheon

Sunday, March 19

9:30 AM 2023 Lent Devotions: “Inward Work for
Outward Living” from The Presbyterian Outlook
Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class

9:30 AM Kingdom Kids– Sunday School for
children ages 5-12

10:30 AM Worship Service

[FPC Victoria Servant Leadership](#)

Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator

[Class of 2023](#)

John Horadam, Building & Grounds
Lynn McAuley, Ass't Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Membership

[Class of 2024](#)

Frances Byrne, Caregiving & Fellowship, Personnel
Patrick Patterson, Building & Grounds, Finance
Becky Richter, Christian Education, Mission & Outreach

[Class of 2025](#)

Donald Anderson, Mission & Outreach
Leila Galvan, Christian Education
Camille Miller, Worship

[Other](#)

Dawn Neel, Treasurer
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
Jim Stokes, Assistant Treasure

[Pastor's Notes](#)

Lest we get too comfortable with the convenience of our own modern, well printed Bibles, our Bulletin cover shows a page (called a “bifolio”) containing excerpts from Paul’s Letter to the Romans, the end of Paul’s Letter to the Philippians, and the beginning of Paul’s Letter to the Colossians. The page is from a codex (c. 200) containing the Pauline Epistles. This manuscript (Greek on papyrus) is the oldest surviving almost complete copy of the Pauline Epistles. Eighty-six of the codex’s original 112 folios survive, and they are archived variously at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) and the Chester Beaty Library (Dublin).

Paul has been called the Church’s first theologian, but that is a descriptor that arose only after the theologians of the ancient Church began to study his writings from an organized, systematic perspective. Paul described himself as a Jew born in Tarsus (Acts 22:3), a tentmaker (Acts 18:3), a servant of Jesus Christ (Rom 1:1), a prisoner of Christ (Philem 1:9), a fool for Christ (1 Cor 4:10), and perhaps more generally an evangelist or a missionary for Christ (Acts 22:21). Nevertheless, in all those capacities, Paul was able to see the overarching nature of God’s gift of Jesus Christ for humanity. Although Paul derided the scholars, philosophers, and debaters of his contemporary culture (1 Cor 1:20), his intellect, his rhetorical skills, and his deep and abiding faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, made it possible for him to describe for eternity some of the deepest tenets, some of the most profound elements, of Christian theology.

[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